

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION
TO	Chief, Africa Division	SECRET	X MARKED FOR INDEXING
INFO.	Chief of Station, Germany, Bonn, FROB, Muni		NO INDEXING REQUIRED
FROM			ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
SUBJECT	O (fnu) BEISSNER		MACROFILM
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES		REF ID: 70-17 per DOI 70-17	
REFERENCES: [] 8 December 1965, (para 3) [] PROB 0855, 18 January 1966, (para 3)			
ACTION REQUIRED: None; for your information			
1. After [] and we failed to find any cards on (fnu) BEISSNER German national, apparent DOB 1921 Alleged arms dealer in Tunisia, connected with Richard Ludwig Wilhelm CHRISTMANN [] wrote the following from memory:			
a. In the summer of 1962, [] offered to introduce [] to BEISSNER whom he described as a German arms dealer, deeply involved with one faction of the Provisional Algerian Government (GPRA), who had lost a leg when the "Red Hand" tried to blow up his car in Germany. [] said BEISSNER owned a villa across the street from Staff Agent [] villa in Gammartin. [] said that he had mentioned to BEISSNER that he had an American acquaintance whom he would like to introduce to him, and that BEISSNER was very receptive to the suggestion. On instructions from [] [] declined [] offer and he never met BEISSNER although [] renewed the invitation several times.			
ATTACHMENT: Iden - USC			
DISTRIBUTION: Orig & 2 - C/AF 1 - COS, Germany 1 - Bonn 1 - PROB 1 - Muni			
1 R/H 1 - [] CS COPY []			
GROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE	
	ATTA-S103	DECLASSIFIED 21 January 1966	
	CLASSIFICATION	HQS FILE NUMBER	
	SECRET	[]	

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

CONTINUATION OF DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. ATTA-5103
-----------------------------	---------------------------------	---

b. When [] reappeared briefly in the spring of 1965,
 [] asked him about

Richard Ludwig Wilhelm *CHRISTMANN
 DPOB 12 November 1905, Montigny-les-Metz,
 German National, former Gestapo intel agent,
 Suspected arms smuggler, intelligence agent in
 in North Africa after World War II.
 Resided Tunis until autumn 1965 when moved Algiers.
 Arrested by Algerian Military Intelligence November 1965.

[] replied that he did not know CHRISTMANN personally, but BEISSNER
 was acquainted with him and the two met frequently.

c. Hans-Georg LANG, German shipping representative now in
 Alexandria, Egypt, mentioned BEISSNER in the spring of 1965 as an acquaintance
 of CHRISTMANN, and added that "people like CHRISTMANN and BEISSNER" have
 good reasons for not returning to Germany.

d. [] mentioned BEISSNER on one or two occasions in
 1965 as being a visitor to []

2. On 18 January 1966 [] asked [] about BEISSNER and
 was told the following: Doctor (sic) BEISSNER called on [] Iden (iden)
 several times in late 1964 and early 1965. He arrived at [] office
 in an American car, driven by a blonde woman who may be his wife. The woman
 who spoke English waited in the reception room until BEISSNER finished his
 conversations with [] in the latter's office. [] never
 made any comments on the motive of BEISSNER's visits and no correspondence
 ensued. Sometime in the early summer, 1965, after a visit by BEISSNER, []
 remarked, with some irritation, "Il n'est pas serieux, ce BEISSNER", and []
 /I believe that BEISSNER has not visited [] since. []
 described BEISSNER as about 45 years old, and limps.

3. On 19 January [] asked a German national employee of the
 Tunisian Government, Iden A of ATTA-4269, about BEISSNER and she said the
 following: Iden A of ATTA-4269 (hereafter referred to as Source) met BEISSNER
 in Tunis in 1959 through a Tunisian acquaintance, Cherif OKBI (or OKPI) whom
 BEISSNER had met in Germany when he had been a frequent caller at the Tunisian
 Embassy. BEISSNER made a most unpleasant impression on Source -- he was
 primitive, rude and ill-mannered. Source later learned that BEISSNER was an
 arms racketeer who had lost one leg in an attempt by a terrorist organization against
 his life in Germany. BEISSNER lived with a blonde German woman, probably his
 wife, who is known to have been unfaithful to BEISSNER, having had several
 brief affairs with Tunisians. BEISSNER seems to be well off; he owns a big
 American automobile and his blonde wife drives it. BEISSNER has been con-
 spicuously absent from all German Embassy functions. He is probably still
 resident in Gammarth. Source considers BEISSNER a soldier of fortune (Landsknecht)
 and says he has the worst imaginable reputation in the German colony, "much
 worse even than CHRISTMANN's reputation."

BEST AVAILABLE COPY